

**Commissioners:**

Bruce A. Blackham, Chairman  
Greg Dettinger  
Claudia Jarrett



**Assessor:** Kenneth Bench  
**Attorney:** Ross C. Blackham  
**Auditor:** Ilene B. Roth  
**Clerk:** Kristine Frischknecht  
**Recorder:** Reed D. Hatch  
**Sheriff:** Kay P. Larsen  
**Treasurer:** Earl D. Clark

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## Sanpete County Courthouse

160 North Main • Manti, Utah 84642

October 21, 2003

Office of the Secretary  
Case Control Unit  
STB Finance Docket 34075  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, NW  
Washington D.C. 20423-0001

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 34075—Environmental Comments  
Six County Association of Governments—Construction and  
Operation Exemption—Rail Line Between Levan and Salina, Utah

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Sanpete County Commission hereby expresses its full support for the Central Utah Rail Project.

As elected officials, we hear from people both for and against this project. We understand the reasons for some being opposed and appreciate their concerns. After reviewing the proposed or preferred alignment, we believe it represents the best place for this railroad to be built. It minimizes, as much as possible, the splitting of irrigated farmlands and impacts on the community.

Due to other projects we have been involved with, we believe the proposed route is also the least harmful to the natural environment and wildlife. It also represents the least amount of impact to communities and residents.

The existing industries in our area need more transportation infrastructure to remain viable. We have a strong presence with trucking but need to reestablish rail as we once had

20 years ago. Our local economy has suffered because we lack this basic piece of infrastructure needed to promote industry and manufacturing.

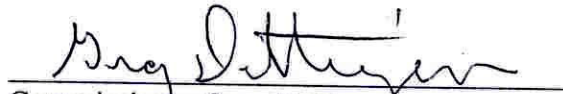
It is important to note that we view this project as a job retention and job creation effort. Over 500 jobs are directly related to mining and we need to ensure that our existing industry can remain viable. We also believe this addition infrastructure will make our area more attractive to new industry thus opening new employment opportunities.

We hope that the STB can complete its review, as quickly as possible, so we can move to the next phase.

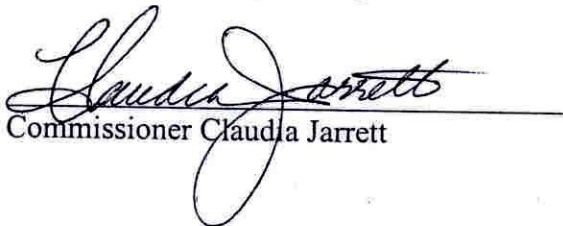
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce A. Blackham". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Commissioner Bruce Blackham, Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Dettinger". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Commissioner Greg Dettinger

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Claudia Jarrett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Commissioner Claudia Jarrett